

Appl. No. 10/687,548
Amdt. Dated December 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 15, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 81751.0067
Customer No.: 26021

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 15, 2005. Claims 10-15, 17, 18, 20, and 21 remain in this application. Claims 10 and 11 are the independent Claims. Claims 1-9, 16, 19, and 22-25 have been canceled without prejudice. It is believed that no new matter is involved in the amendments or arguments presented herein. Reconsideration and entrance of the amendment in the application are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 5 of the Office Action, Claims 10-15, 17-18, and 20-21 were indicated to be allowed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner and formally recognizes the allowed claims.

Art-Based Rejections

Claims 1, 3, and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,147,401 (Solberg). Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 16, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,147,401 (Sakurai). Claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sakurai in view of P.S. Patent No. 6,486,544 (Hashimoto).

The rejected claims 1-9, 16, 19, and 22-25 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot the above rejections.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

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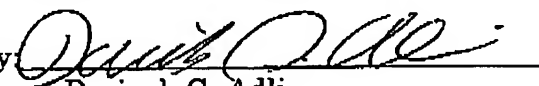
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6809 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: December 15, 2005

By:



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